

alive. The President is clearly jumping the gun in committing troops to Bosnia. It is a dangerous move and has all the makings of a very, very deadly quagmire.

Mr. Speaker, there is no plan. There is no compelling national interest to send young American men and women to die in Bosnia. Mr. Speaker, there is no compelling reason to take this action.

Let us lift the arms embargo against the Bosnian Moslems so they can defend themselves, but let us not place United States troops in a deadly situation. Let us not spend \$2 billion of American taxpayers money.

CONGRESS CUT NOT ONE PENNY FROM ISRAEL OR EGYPT

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, everybody realizes that cuts must be made, but there is something definitely wrong here. Congress cuts seniors in America. Congress cuts housing in America. Congress cuts kids in America. Congress cuts education in America. Congress cuts farmers in America. Congress cuts services in America. Congress cuts bridges and roads in America.

I might be able to accept that, but, on the other hand, Congress did not cut one penny from the aid to Egypt or Israel. Now, a Congress that can find money for Israel and Egypt while cutting all of this in America, in my opinion, is not only misdirected but out of touch with America.

I am going to vote "no" on this budget. We should treat everybody alike; even if it is like dogs, treat everybody alike.

□ 1115

IT IS TIME TO BALANCE THE BUDGET

(Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will debate H.R. 2491, the fiscal year 1996 budget reconciliation. For the first time in a generation, Congress will pass a balanced budget. By the year 2002, the deficit will be zero and we will be on our way to paying down the national debt.

Mr. Speaker, this is the right thing to do. For the first time in 25 years, Congress has run out of excuses for not doing the right thing for America's future. Previous Congresses totally avoided the most basic financial responsibilities. They squandered billions on frivolous, ineffective, and repetitive bureaucracies. They repeatedly raised taxes, making it appear that the problem was the American people's problem and not their own. Americans paid 37 percent of their income in Federal

taxes in 1995. Today their total is over 40 percent with Federal, State, and local taxes combined.

Last November, the American people said "enough." Republicans campaigned on a promise to balance the budget, and we will keep that promise. No excuses. No gimmicks. It is time to balance the budget.

A QUICK QUIZ

(Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGEL. As we do budget reconciliation, a quick quiz, Mr. Speaker, three questions:

First, why are Republicans cutting Medicare and hurting seniors? A—to save the Medicare Program? B—to balance the budget? C—to pay for a tax cut for the rich?

If my colleagues said "C" they are right. The Republicans are cutting Medicare to help their rich friends.

Second, who do Republicans care most about? A—senior citizens? B—America's children? C—the B-2 bomber?

Again, if my colleagues said "C" they are correct. While the Republicans are cutting Federal funding to Medicare and education, they are increasing funding for the B-2 bomber, what even the Pentagon says we do not need.

Third, which programs will be protected under Republican proposals? A—Social Security? B—Medicare? C—Pork barrel projects in Republican districts?

Again, the answer is "C." While Republicans are hurting seniors by reducing their Social Security and Medicare benefits, they are conducting business as usual by increasing funding for fat cat projects.

Well, Mr. Speaker, all three answers were "C."

I guess the "C" stands for cuts—Republican cuts. Cut the heart out of our seniors by raiding Medicare. Cut the heart out of our children's education. Cut the heart out of America's future.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE UNDERSTAND IT IS TIME FOR FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I listened with great interest to the gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL] play a game that really should be called, Who does he think he's fooling? I at least was happy it was a multiple-choice test because we will provide seniors something that has been lacking in health care for the last three decades, a choice, the most fundamental element of American freedom, the freedom to choose what health care plan is best for them, and once again, Mr. Speaker, only in Washington, with the twisted Washington mathematics of

the guardians of the old order, can an increase from \$4,800 this year to \$6,700 in the year 2002 be considered a cut. How is that a cut? It is an increase of almost \$2,000.

Mr. Speaker, the American people will not be fooled. They understand it is time for fundamental change. That is why we were sent here, and that is why we will change things for the better.

THIS IS NOT A FAIR BUDGET

(Mr. WYNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, good morning. Balancing the budget may be a good idea. Tax breaks for the wealthy is not. I want to talk about Medicaid.

In this so-called reconciliation bill the Republicans cut \$182 billion out of Medicaid. Now some people are saying, "There you go, talking about the poor again." No, I am talking about the elderly, the disabled, and the blind. They had not one public hearing. They cut \$182 billion. They tell us, well, it is to make things better for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, the future is now. The future is my parents, my colleagues' parents. It is my colleagues' parents, my colleagues' grandparents, my colleagues' aunts, and my colleagues' uncles who are in these nursing homes. In the year 2002, when they tell us they will have a great balanced budget, they will also be spending 30 percent less on Medicaid. They also are eliminating the standards that protect seniors from oversaturation, protect their nutrition, protect their health standards in nursing homes.

The other night I met with the Alzheimer's support group. They are worried. They are concerned that they may have to spend their children's college education to support their parents in nursing homes. They are concerned that the elderly are sometimes eating cat food because they cannot afford it.

This is not a fair budget, and they worsen the pain by adding tax breaks for the rich. We need to protect our seniors. Reject the Republican budget approach.

REPUBLICAN MAJORITY DELIVERS CLINTON'S CAMPAIGN PROMISE FOR A TAX CUT

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, President Clinton's reelection campaign is now in full swing, so once again he has flip-flopped his position on taxes. Now the President admits that he raised taxes too much in his 1993 budget. Let us listen to what the pundits around this Nation are saying:

Eleanor Clift said, "This is just one notch below 'Read my lips.'"